

DESCRIPTION OF THE BNP PARIBAS SILVER MINING TOTAL RETURN INDEX (USD)

The BNP Paribas Silver Mining Total Return Index (USD) (the "Index") is a market capitalization-weighted (with a maximum weight of 15%) US Dollar-denominated index.

The Index is designed to provide exposure to the shares of companies that are primarily involved in silver mining. The Index includes the top 12 ranked shares identified on the basis of the selection criteria described below and will be rebalanced on a semi-annual basis.

The Index is calculated and published on a daily basis by BNP Paribas Arbitrage S.N.C., which has its principal office at 160-162 boulevard MacDonald, 75019 Paris, France and is authorised and regulated by the *Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution* (the "ACPR") (the "Index Calculation Agent"). The Index is maintained and sponsored by BNP Paribas, which has its principal office at 16 boulevard des Italiens, 75009 Paris, France and authorised and regulated by the European Central Bank and the ACPR (the "Index Sponsor").

The start date of the Index will be Tuesday 7 July 2015 (the "Index Start Date"). The level of the Index on and from the Index Start Date will be published by the Index Calculation Agent on Bloomberg Screenpage BNPIASUT Index and Reuters RIC .BNPIASUT, or any successor pages thereto, on https://indices-globalmarkets.bnpparibas.com, and on any other data provider as the Index Sponsor deems appropriate.

The Index is a "Total Return" index. As a consequence, the level of the Index reflects a value assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions declared by the underlying companies.

The Index is part of the Thematic Equity Indices family of BNP Paribas indices (further information on which may be found at https://indices-globalmarkets.bnpparibas.com).

Selection Criteria

The universe comprises shares of companies that have a significant percentage of their revenues derived from silver mining-related business ("Silver Mining Related Business"), as determined in a reasonable manner by the Index Sponsor. This percentage will generally be in excess of 30%, but the Index sponsor may select companies with a lower percentage, if the company has indicated that it intends to increase its Silver Mining Related Business in the near future. Where the company does not publish the proportion of revenue it derives from Silver Mining Related Business, the Index Sponsor shall determine this in a commercially reasonable manner using information from publicly available sources. The shares included in the universe shall be admitted to trading on a regulated market for the purposes of the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive 2004/39/EC. On the Index Start Date, the shares considered are listed in Australia, Canada, European Union member states, Mexico and the United States of America.

From this universe, the Index Sponsor identifies those companies satisfying the following criteria:

- A 3 month average daily trading volume greater than the equivalent of 1 million USD; and
- A market capitalisation above the equivalent of 350 million USD.



The companies satisfying the criteria are ranked according to their market capitalisation on a semi-annual basis, with the 12 highest ranked companies being included in the Index as "Index Components" on a market-capitalization-weighted (with a maximum weight of 15%) basis during the 10-day rebalancing period.



Composition of the Index

On the Index Start Date, the Index will be comprised of the Index Components set out in the table below:

n	Name	ISIN	Bloomberg	Currency	Exchange
1	Coeur Mining Inc	US1921085049	CDE UN Equity	USD	New York Stock Exchange
2	First Majestic Silver Corp	CA32076V1031	FR CT Equity	CAD	Toronto Stock Exchange
3	Fortuna Silver Mines Inc	CA3499151080	FVI CT Equity	CAD	Toronto Stock Exchange
4	Fresnillo PLC	GB00B2QPKJ12	FRES LN Equity	GBP	London Stock Exchange
5	Hecla Mining Co	US4227041062	HL UN Equity	USD	New York Stock Exchange
6	Hochschild Mining PLC	GB00B1FW5029	HOC LN Equity	GBP	London Stock Exchange
7	Industrias Penoles SAB de CV	MXP554091415	PE&OLES* MM Equity	MXN	Mexican Stock Exchange
8	MAG Silver Corp	CA55903Q1046	MAG CT Equity	CAD	Toronto Stock Exchange
9	Pan American Silver Corp	CA6979001089	PAAS UW Equity	USD	NASDAQ/OMX
10	Polymetal International PLC	JE00B6T5S470	POLY LN Equity	GBP	London Stock Exchange
11	Silver Standard Resources Inc	CA82823L1067	SSRI UW Equity	USD	NASDAQ/OMX
12	Silver Wheaton Corp	CA8283361076	SLW UN Equity	USD	New York Stock Exchange

Following the Index Start Date, the composition of the Index may be adjusted from time to time by the Index Sponsor in accordance with the rules governing the Index, which will be available at https://indices-globalmarkets.bnpparibas.com/nr/ASUT.pdf starting from the Index Start Date. Additional information in relation to the Index, including information on (a) the past performance of the Index (b) the method of calculation of the Index, and (c) any adjustments to the composition of the Index (specifically the location and deadline for the announcement of a change) is available at https://indices-globalmarkets.bnpparibas.com.



Disclaimer

"The methodology of and rules governing the index (the "Index Methodology" and the "Index") are proprietary. None of the sponsor of the Index (the "Index Sponsor"), the index calculation agent (where such party is not also the Index Sponsor, the "Index Calculation Agent") nor, where applicable, the index Investment Advisor (the "Index Investment Advisor") guarantee that there will be no errors or omissions in computing or disseminating the Index.

The Index Methodology is based on certain assumptions, certain pricing models and calculation methods adopted by the Index Sponsor, the Index Calculation Agent and, where applicable, the Index Investment Advisor, and may have certain inherent limitations. Information prepared on the basis of different models, calculation methods or assumptions may yield different results. You have no authority to use or reproduce the Index Methodology in any way, and neither BNP Paribas nor any of its affiliates shall be liable for any loss whatsoever, whether arising directly or indirectly from the use of the Index or Index Methodology or otherwise in connection therewith.

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The Index Methodology embeds certain costs in the strategy which cover amongst other things, friction, replication and repo costs in running the Index. The levels of such costs (if any) may vary over time in accordance with market conditions as determined by the Index Sponsor acting in a commercially reasonable manner.

BNP Paribas and/or its affiliates may act in a number of different capacities in relation to the Index and/or products linked to the Index, which may include, but not be limited to, acting as market-maker, hedging counterparty, issuer of components of the Index, Index Sponsor and/or Index Calculation Agent. Such activities could result in potential conflicts of interest that could influence the price or value of a Product."